

Citizen's Update

Spring 2009 News You Need to Know About Your City

Celebrating 40 Years as a City!

BRENTWOOD
INCORPORATED

On April 15, 1969, residents voted to incorporate as a City to better direct the future of the community. Shown here is Chick Boggan, painting over the letters "UN" on a sign located at present day Brentwood Place.

*****ECRWSS**
Resident
RR#
Brentwood, TN 37027

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Brentwood TN
Permit No. 5



Check Us Out!

NEW!! www.brentwood-tn.org **NEW!!**

With the growing use of the Internet and the City's website by the Brentwood community, our website must provide up-to-date information that is attractive in a format with easy access and usability. The prior website was approximately 10 years old with a dated appearance and limitations on the city's ability to keep information current and to expand service delivery.

The city recently implemented a new design for our website that is built on the latest technology, is faster and easier for citizens to find needed information and is easy to maintain and update in-house.

With more and more people relying on websites as their first source of information and to handle routine business activities, the objective of the new website is to enhance our ability to meet the growing requirements and expectations of citizens for service delivery and to operate more efficiently.

Traffic Light Approved for Concord Road Intersection

The City recently received approval from the TN Department of Transportation for the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Concord Road and Green Hill Blvd. In addition to installation of the signal, the City plans minor sidewalk improvements to provide for safer pedestrian crossing at this busy intersection. The new signal is expected to be installed and operational in the summer of 2009.



Citizen's Fire Academy

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be a firefighter? Here is a chance to see what it is all about. The Citizens Fire Academy is a three-month program starting on July 30th and meeting every other Thursday evening. This is a great opportunity to learn about your fire department and get hands-on with the tools of the trade. Participants can even ride along with firefighters as they respond to actual emergency calls. Additional information and applications are available on-line at www.brentwood-tn.org/fire/cfa or call 371-0170; deadline for submitting applications is June 30th.

City is Committed to Environmental Sustainability

While many cities and private companies have recently emphasized how "green" they are, the City of Brentwood has a history of policies and programs that make Brentwood an environmentally friendly city. Examples include:

- All brush collected by the City's chipper service is recycled either as ground cover or industrial fuel;
- The City's storm water regulations require a natural, undisturbed buffer along all existing streams to improve water quality;
- The City has an ongoing effort to replace all traffic signal bulbs with energy efficient LED bulbs that use 90% less electricity;



- The City currently has over 14 miles of bikeways and greenways that connect various facilities, including the Brentwood Library, Brentwood YMCA, Crockett Park, River Park, Primm Park, Tower Park, Williamson County Recreation Center, The Heritage, Ravenwood High School, Woodland Middle School, Crockett Elementary, Kenrose Elementary, Lipscomb Elementary and numerous subdivisions;
- The Hillside Protection zoning overlay that applies to all properties above an elevation of 850 feet. The intent of the HP hillside protection overlay district is to encourage prudent land disturbance and development activities that maintain the natural, topographic character of the land;
- The City's outstanding park system contains 550 acres of public open space with an additional 75 acres expected to be added in the next 12-18 months. This public parkland, when combined with the preserved open space within residential developments, results in 11.6% of the total land area within the City of Brentwood being permanently preserved open space/parkland;
- Each year as part of the annual Arbor Day festivities, the City distributes 4,000 seedlings to local students to take home and plant. To date, it is estimated that over 80,000 25,000 seedlings have been distributed;
- City staff can remotely control all traffic signals and develop signal timing patterns that promote more efficient traffic flow, reduce congestion, and re-



duce vehicle stops and starts, thereby reducing vehicle emissions and improving air quality.

To enhance the City's environmental efforts, the City Commission recently created an Ad-Hoc Environmental Quality Coordinating Committee. This committee is charged with reviewing the City's existing programs and policies as well as the 2020 Plan goals and objectives and developing a set of recommendations for priority actions by the City that will further enhance and sustain the environmental quality of municipal operations and services, and the overall quality of life in Brentwood into the future. The committee will report back to the City Commission by December 31, 2009.



Katie Williams, State Fire Educator of the Year, and Sally, her Search and Rescue Beagle, are instrumental in teaching fire prevention to children.

State Fire Educator of the Year Firefighter Katie Williams

Each year the Tennessee State Fire Marshal's office recognizes one individual statewide as the Public Educator of the Year for their efforts to educate the public on fire safety. Brentwood Firefighter Katie Williams was selected for this award for 2008.

Katie and Sally (a trained Search and Rescue Beagle) have been with Brentwood since 2004 and have worked hard to expand the public education programs. Katie established a Risk

Watch program for elementary schools that shows children how to throw toys out their window to get the attention of firefighters, to crawl low in smoke, and to sleep with their bedroom doors closed.

Brentwood is committed to the prevention of fires and injuries through public education. We are very fortunate to have a firefighter the caliber of Katie Williams. Congratulations Katie!

SHOP IN BRENTWOOD FIRST!

WHENEVER POSSIBLE, YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO DO YOUR SHOPPING IN THE Brentwood City limits. Besides benefiting our local businesses, each purchase generates local sales tax collections that help support and pay for the cost of municipal services and schools. For each dollar spent in Brentwood, the City and Williamson County Schools split evenly 2.25 cents in local sales tax. While this may not sound like much, cumulatively, it generates over \$10 million annually or about 35% of the total funding for the City's General Fund budget.



How does this benefit you directly? Each dollar spent in Brentwood essentially allows us to maintain a low City property tax rate and continue to provide excellent services such as police, fire, parks, library, etc. It's a "win-win" to shop in Brentwood first!



Brentwood Chipper Service

Spring is always a busy time for our chipper service.

Please help us serve you better: stack brush close to the curb with the cut end toward the curb. No brush should be longer than 12 feet and limbs/stumps greater than six inches in diameter will not be picked up by the City and the homeowner must dispose of these large limbs by some other means.

At the discretion of the Public Works Director or his designee, city crews may refuse to service certain brush piles that due to the size or composition exceed the reasonable capabilities of the City's resources, thereby preventing the department from maintaining its monthly collection schedule at other Brentwood homes.

NOTE – No trimmings cut by third parties will be accepted – trimmings must be hauled away by the party doing the trimming.

To provide chipper service efficiently, there is an established monthly route schedule. For information, call the Brentwood Service Center at 371-0080.

The City appreciates your cooperation.

★ **VOTE! VOTE! VOTE!** ★

Brentwood City Commission Election

May 5, 2009 Election

*** EARLY VOTING ***

April 17-30

7 a.m.-6 p.m. Weekdays

8 a.m.-Noon Saturdays

Brentwood Library, 8109 Concord Road
Brentwood Municipal Center, 5211 Maryland Way
Williamson County Administrative Complex
West Main Street, Franklin

For additional information 790-5711

★

2009 CONCERT SERIES

*Eddy Arnold Amphitheater
Crockett Park - 7 p.m.*



SPONSORED BY
**BancorpSouth • CapStar Bank
Williamson Medical Center**

FAMILY ORIENTED AND FREE ADMISSION

MAY 10	Nashville Symphony Orchestra
JUNE 7	Riders in the Sky
JUNE 14	7 Bridges: The Ultimate Eagles Experience
JUNE 21	Williamson County Community Band
JUNE 28	The WannaBeatles
JULY 4	Fireworks Celebration- Featuring The Kadillacs
JULY 12	The Tams

JULY 4TH CELEBRATION CROCKETT PARK – 7 p.m.

*"Limited Parking" – You can park at the library or River Park and use bikeway;
Residents from nearby subdivisions, please walk or ride bikes.*

City Manager's Report

Dear Citizens,

We are now entering the sixth month of what many are calling the most significant economic crisis since the Great Depression. Like most of you, your City government is feeling the effects of the slowdown as reflected in declining sales tax collections, fewer new housing starts, less shared revenue from the State of Tennessee, etc.

Many of you have asked about the financial position of the City. Like you, we are tightening our belts and watching every dollar we spend. At the same time, our systematic approach to financial management and service delivery over the years is paying dividends for us today. It is allowing us to continue basic services and to provide funding for our future obligations including infrastructure needs. We fully expect to maintain current service levels in the upcoming fiscal year 2010 budget (July 1, 2009 – June 30, 2010) and do so without a property tax increase for the 19th consecutive year.

There is nothing sensational about how we approach things or operate at the City of Brentwood. We recognize that economic downturns will come and go over our lifetime, so we must be prepared to respond effectively in the tough times and not regress backward. A City that waits until the event occurs to figure what to do will be in trouble and forced to make decisions that do not serve the long term interests of the community.

Our systematic approach is based on the following framework:

- Our approach is the result of years of continuous, steady effort by the Board of Commission and staff to focus on the core missions of the City and do the best possible job in delivering and improving basic services cost effectively.
- We did not undertake additional, unnecessary programs or on-going obligations outside our core mission even when the resources were available in the boom years;
- Having the Brentwood 2020 Plan as the road map for the future has allowed us to focus our efforts proactively rather than reactively in addressing the priorities of the community.
- We not only adopted sound financial and debt policies, we have followed those policies;
- We have maintained adequate reserves and conservative budget practices year after year. Our success is measured by the highest possible credit rating - AAA credit ratings from both Moody's and Standard and Poor's;

- We plan ahead for obligations by accumulating funds annually for future replacement of equipment, technology, facility and street maintenance, retiree obligations, etc. Our newest feature will be a "Fuel Fund" designed to level out significant fluctuations in gas and diesel fuel cost over multiple years.

- We have kept our (per capita) staffing levels low when compared to similar cities. Concurrently, we have compensated our employees well for their added productivity and extra efforts. This approach has allowed us to avoid layoffs that other cities are facing today;

- We maintain a no layoff policy which facilitates loyalty and encourages efforts by employees to identify new ways to save tax dollars without compromising service delivery; and

- A willingness of affected employees to shift work assignments to other departments when the workloads in their department have declined significantly from the economic downturn.

Finally, we never forget that our residents chose to live in Brentwood because they want to, not because they have to. They invest their time and resources in our community because of our favorable quality of life and expect value for their tax dollars. While the City will continue to tighten its belt like everyone, we believe our systematic approach as outlined above will keep our community on the right path and allow it to become an even better community when the economy improves.

The staff appreciates your understanding and support in these challenging times. We always welcome your comments and suggestions on how we can do things better or to answer your questions. Please feel free to go to www.brentwood-tn.org and access Citizen Comments on our homepage to tell us your thoughts. Or you may also choose to contact me directly at 371-0060, or you may also choose to contact me by e-mail at walkerm@brentwood-tn.org.

Sincerely,

Michael (Mike) Walker



BRENTWOOD VOLUNTEERS

Quality of life in any community is measured by its volunteer support.

The City of Brentwood is very fortunate to have thousands of citizens who unselfishly volunteer their time and expertise to community programs and projects. These volunteers make a difference in the lives of others by their service and in addressing the challenges that face our city.

Citizens with a variety of educational backgrounds and experiences lend their expertise to community projects. The additional knowledge, skills and commitment of volunteers makes our City a wonderful place to work, live and raise families.

The City of Brentwood encourages all citizens to participate in city programs and to have a voice in the development of our community. Volunteers help to maintain and expand existing programs and help implement new ones. Many citizens experience firsthand how the city functions and are instrumental in developing the City's policies and vision plans.

In addition, Brentwood citizens are actively involved in many other organizations—schools, churches, youth sports associations, scouts, civic clubs, and other organizations that enrich our community. It is through the commitment of our residents and businesses that our city continues to grow and thrive.

Brentwood has been recognized internationally by the International City/County Management Association (ICMA), nationally by the 3CMA and statewide by the Tennessee Municipal League (TML) for its volunteer/citizen involvement. The TML's recognition stated that Brentwood had "the best volunteer organization of any city in the state." And that "Brentwood's many volunteers feel a part of their city and are the city's ambassadors in their community."

The City of Brentwood would like to thank our volunteers for sharing their talents and for their willingness to serve others. Brentwood has truly been blessed by the commitment and dedication of so many citizens who give of themselves. These are a few of the City Commission appointed volunteer boards and other groups that play a vital role in the affairs of City Government:

VOLUNTEER BOARDS



HISTORIC COMMISSION

Seated L-R: Tom Bain, Arlene Cooke, MaryLou Gallagher, Anne Goad, Kathie Greaves and Gil Hutchinson; *Standing* Sharon Wnuk, Commissioner Anne Dunn, Community Relations Director Linda Lynch, Carole Crigger and Judy Lawing. *Not pictured:* Sherry Hammond, Rachel Waterhouse and Vance Little (City Historian). The Historic Board is dedicated to the preservation of Brentwood's heritage through activities such as educational programs, demonstrations, living videos and encouraging legislation to protect historic sites. Twelve members; meets 3rd Friday at 10:30 a.m.

WORKING TOGETHER

we can make a difference in our community and our nation.



BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

L-R Wayne Amond, Don Robinson, and Alex Noble. *Not pictured:* Bill Cleland and Sean Donahue. BZA hears requests for variances to the zoning regulations, hears appeals of city decisions where an error is alleged and hears applications for special exceptions to the regulations. Five members; meets 3rd Monday at 5:30 p.m.



TREE COMMITTEE

Seated L-R: Sue Ross, Lynn Tucker, Erin Kiney (Park staff). *Standing L-R:* Gene Berkau, Community Relations Director Linda Lynch, Don Green, Kim Cross, Cecil Ward, Mayor Joe Reagan. *Not pictured* Hart Applegate, Chairman. The Tree Board is dedicated to planting and preserving trees and educational programs. Projects involve Arbor Day, Deerwood and Library Arboretums, Tree Ordinance and Tree City, USA. Eight members; meets quarterly on 4th Thursday at 7:30 a.m.

VOLUNTEERING

is a two-way street. When you give of your time and talents, you will learn, grow and experience fulfillment in a new way.

HOW TO BECOME INVOLVED:

Brentwood citizens are encouraged to become involved with our community by volunteering your time. The best way is to volunteer your time and energy. Vacancies on city appointed boards and committees are publicized in the local media, on the City's Cable television channel and on the city's website, www.brentwood-tn.org. Board appointments for various boards occur throughout the year. Applications are available at City Hall and online. Applicants must be residents of Brentwood and are appointed by the City Commission. For more information call Linda Lynch, Community Relations Director, 371-0060, e-mail at lynchl@brentwood-tn.org or city's web site: www.brentwood-tn.org.



LIBRARY FRIENDS BOARD

Seated L-R: Mayron Huddleston, Dick Fankhauser, Karen Anderson, Pat Buzzell, Sandra Osborne. *Standing from left:* Library Director Chuck Sherrill, Manny Buzzell, Lu Whitworth, Dennis Beyer, Joan Lawler, Mary Lou Montague, Carl Thorman and Mayor Joe Reagan. The Friends is a nonprofit service organization which provides financial support to the library through the sponsorship of book sales four times a year. Meets each 2nd Monday at 1 p.m.

“Never doubt that a small group
of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the
world; indeed, it’s the only thing that ever does.

—Margaret Mead



LIBRARY BOARD

Standing L-R: Jack Vicary, Loyce Hooker, Pat Buzzell, Manny Buzzell, Chuck Scott. *Seated:* Commissioner Joe Sweeney, Linda Gnass, Vonnie Munn, Bert Bosse. Library Board provides citizen input into the library’s policies, programs and collections. Seven members; meets 2nd Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.



LIBRARY FOUNDATION BOARD

Standing L-R: Bert Bosse, John Mick, Francene Kavin, Dottie Grief, Judy Foster, Sheila Cleveland, Linda Lynch and Mike Wiley. *Seated L-R:* Diane West, Arlene Cooke and Chuck Sherrill. The Foundation is a nonprofit organization chartered in 2002 to solicit contributions for enhancements to the Library’s facility, collections and programs. Meets each 4th Thursday at 5 p.m.



PARK BOARD

L-R: Lenda Elmlinger, Jim Murphy, Cecil Ward, V-Mayor Paul Webb, James Parker, Elizabeth Whittemore, Dave Bunt, Parks Director, Bob Bellenfant. *Not pictured* and activities. Eight members; meets 1st Monday at 5 p.m.



PLANNING COMMISSION

L-R: Jack Fletcher, Robert Power, Carole Crigger, Randy Campbell, Bill Porth, Sandi Wells, Everett Cowan, Commissioner Betsy Crossley. *Not pictured:* Bob Burns, Mark Gorman, and Joe Lassus, Planning & Codes Director. The Planning Commission reviews and approves applications for commercial and subdivision development and provides recommendations to City Commission on proposed zoning ordinances. Ten members; meets 1st Monday at 7 p.m.



BOARD OF BUILDING CONSTRUCTION APPEALS

Seated L-R: Michael Hindman and Surendra Ramanna. *Standing L-R:* Bonn Latimer and Todd Craver. *Not pictured:* Dino Elefante. The BBCA has expertise in the building and construction trades. It periodically hears specific appeals of Brentwood codes, staff decisions on individual building plans, and cases involving dilapidated structures. Five members; meets when specific cases warrant consideration.



Lieutenant Kristin King, Assistant Accreditation Manager, and Captain Jeff Hughes, Accreditation Manager

Police Excellence Award

The Brentwood Police Department was selected to receive the Flagship Agency Award from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. recognizing the Brentwood Police Department as one of the "best of the best" accredited law enforcement agencies in the world.

Brentwood was a pioneer in accreditation in Tennessee. The Police Department was first accredited in 1989 and has the longest tenure of any Police Department in the state of Tennessee.

Brentwood Police Department operates under the highest professional law enforcement standards in the nation. This honor recognizes the commitment to professionalism and excellence in law enforcement by everyone in the department.

Congratulations to the Brentwood Police Department for their national recognition!

Lowest Combined City/County Property Tax Rates For Largest Tennessee Cities (Population 25,000 or Greater) (2008 Effective Rates – Per \$100 Assessed Value)

Ranking	City	County	Effective Tax Rate
(1)	Brentwood	Williamson	\$2.75
(2)	Hendersonville	Sumner	\$2.91
(3)	Laverne	Rutherford	\$3.06
(4)	Morristown	Hamblen	\$3.16
(5)	Smyrna	Rutherford	\$3.42
(6)	Franklin/FSSD	Williamson	\$3.60
(7)	Cookeville	Putnam	\$3.62
(8)	Cleveland	Bradley	\$3.67
(9)	Columbia	Maury	\$3.88
(10)	Murfreesboro	Rutherford	\$3.97
(11)	Johnson City	Washington	\$4.38
(12)	Jackson	Madison	\$4.41
(13)	Clarksville	Montgomery	\$4.45
(14)	Nashville	Davidson	\$4.69
(15)	Kingsport	Sullivan	\$4.83
(16)	Bristol	Sullivan	\$5.03
(17)	Chattanooga	Hamilton	\$5.36
(18)	Collierville	Shelby	\$5.37
(19)	Oak Ridge	Anderson	\$5.45
(20)	Knoxville	Knox	\$5.50
(21)	Bartlett	Shelby	\$5.63
(22)	Germantown	Shelby	\$5.63
(23)	Memphis	Shelby	\$7.29

*Note: Effective Effective rates are based on actual rates adjusted by appropriate appraisal ratios as determined from the most recent appraisal date. Rates shown are as established for the 2008 tax year. As reflected in the chart above, the 2008 combined Brentwood and Williamson County effective property tax rate is the lowest in the State of Tennessee. Brentwood's effective property tax rate of \$2.75 per \$100 of assessed value (.49/City, \$2.26/County) is the lowest in the State.

Sources: 2008 Tennessee Comptroller of the Treasury
Division of Property Assessments Website, Municipal
Technical Advisory Service Website

Your Library Is Growing

Construction of a 12,000 square foot addition to the Brentwood Library was started in November 2008 and is targeted for completion by early fall 2009. The construction involves three additions to the building as well as renovation of existing space. The City Commission has provided \$5.3 million for the project, and the Library Foundation is raising an additional \$300,000 for special enhancements to the facility.



What you can look forward to in the "new" library:

- Larger Storytime and Children's Learning Center
- Enhanced Theming in the Children's Library
- New Recorded Arts Room for movies, music and audio
- New Teen space
- Computer Lab, Conference Room and Study Rooms
- New Brentwood Room
- More space for books and materials everywhere
- More comfortable seating for laptop users and browsers
- New technology with flat-screen signage and displays

Children's Events

Easter Egg Hunt

Don't miss the Annual Library Easter Egg Hunt, held this year on Thurs., April 9th at 4 p.m. Parking at the library is limited; please use the Civitan ballpark lot. Bring your camera and Easter Basket.

Preschool Storytime is held at the library each Tues. and Wed. at 10 and 11 a.m. Preschoolers are invited to join Miss Pat for stories, songs and crafts. On Saturdays, Family Storytime is held at 10:30. Although the Storytime Room is closed for construction, the program is ongoing.



Adult Programs

Chess Club All ages and skill levels are welcome! Join us at 4 p.m. on the 4th Friday of each month for playing and learning. On site chess coach teaches beginning, intermediate and advance strategies. Boards are provided, no registration necessary.

Library Database Class Come see why the library databases are even better than Google. Get an overview of online services the library provides from business resources, health information to homework help. Class is offered the third Wednesday of the month at 7 p.m. and the third Friday of the month at 3 p.m. Please call ahead or register online.

Downloading Audio Books Connect to the library's website and learn to download books to your computer and sync to your MP3 player. Class is offered the first Monday evening of the month at 7 p.m. and the second Friday of the month at 3:00 p.m. If available, bring a Windows compatible MP3 player and cord. Sorry, no iPods. Please call ahead or register online.

Book Discussion Groups Join other readers to discuss books of interest. The Morning Book Group meets at 10 a.m. on the 4th Thursday of the month. The Afternoon Book Group meets at 6:30 p.m. on the 4th Tuesday. Guests are always welcome.

Computer Classes Introductory classes for computer users are available on a rotating schedule. Topics include Internet for Beginners; Word; Excel; Power Point; Desktop Publishing; Computer Troubleshooting and others. Registration is open now for classes through June.

To Register Call Robyn Zandi, Program Coordinator, at 371-0090 x 851 or visit our web site at www.brentwood-tn.org/library/eventschedule.

City Briefs

Need Help?

Occasionally you may have a problem with the City and may not be sure who to contact. In that case, please call Linda Lynch- Community Relations Director at 371-0060 or by e-mail at lynchl@brentwood-tn.org. She will be glad to get you to the right person to address your concerns.

Spring Clean Up

When you are spring cleaning, if there are items too large for the regular trash pick-up, you can take them for disposal by the City at the following locations between 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Dates

April 18 • Granny White Park

April 25 • Safety Center East, 1300 Sunset Rd.

May 2 • Granny White Park

Important: We cannot accept liquids, sprays, paints, batteries, tires or chippings.

Williamson County Recycling Center

Come visit the expanded facility located next to Fire Station No. 2
1301 Wilson Pike • 790-5848

County Household Trash Locations

Will not accept liquids, sprays, paints, batteries or tires; brush will be accepted. Recycling bins are available, too.

OPEN EVERY DAY 7 a.m.-5 p.m.

Trinity Convenience Center
3004 Wilson Pike • 794-3904
2 miles south of city limits on left

Nolensville Convenience Center
1525 Sunset Road • 776-2717
.5 mile east of Waller Rd. on left

Grassland Convenience Center
1495 Sneed Road • 371-1697
.1 mile west of Hillsboro Rd. on left behind county fire hall

Keep Williamson Beautiful!

For Disposal of Household Hazardous Waste

Williamson County Administrative Complex

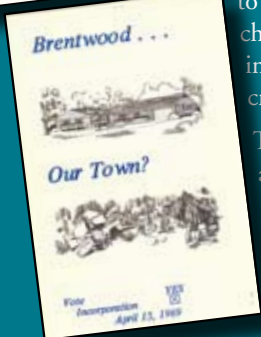
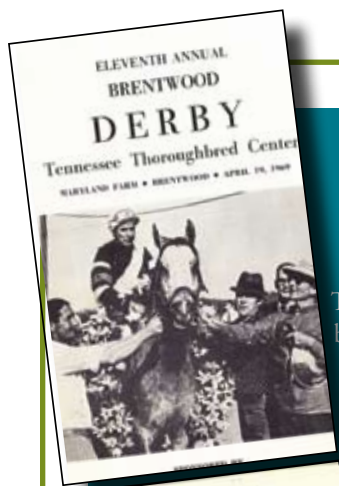
1320 West Main Street
Franklin • 790-5848
May 2 • 8:30 a.m.-2 p.m.

City Phone Numbers

Municipal Center	371-0060
Planning/Codes	371-2204
Water Billing	661-7061
Water Maintenance	371-0080
Public Works	371-0080
Service Center	371-0080
Police	371-0160
Fire	371-0170
Wm. Co. Ambulance	794-2800
Library	371-0090
Parks	371-2208
Emergency	911

Citizen's Update

Published semi-annually by City of Brentwood. Comments and suggestions should be directed to Linda Lynch, Community Relations Director, 615-371-0060 or by e-mail at lynchl@brentwood-tn.org.



Happy Birthday Brentwood!

Celebrating 40 Years • 1969 – 2009

The City of Brentwood was incorporated in April 1969 with a population of 3,378 and a first year budget of \$60,000. In May of that year, the City elected its first three City Commissioners. At the time of Brentwood's incorporation, the developed area was about 10 square miles, from Wilson Pike to Granny White Pike and from Old Hickory Boulevard to just south of Concord Road.

The city has now grown to 42 square miles and population of 35,262. Much of this growth was due to the construction of I-65 in the 1960s. The easy accessibility to Nashville and the open country character of the area made Brentwood one of the most attractive and fastest growing communities in Tennessee. Brentwood has come a long way in 40 years – from a small rural crossroads community to a premier place to live and work.

The City is excited about turning 40 and has planned several activities including a Birthday Reception honoring past and present elected officials, free concerts at the Crockett Park Amphitheater kicked off by the Nashville Symphony, a July 4th Celebration, and the collection of historic pictures.



FUN! FUN! FUN!

A Day in Brentwood's Past

FREE FAMILY FUN

Crockett Park

Log House

Saturday, April 25

10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Longhunter • Blacksmith

Animals • Music

Civil War Memorabilia

Antique Fire Engine

Sponsored by
Brentwood Historic Commission



New Fire Department Ladder Truck

The Brentwood Fire Department recently added a new Sutphen 100-foot platform aerial ladder truck to the fleet. This unit will provide better suppression capabilities for buildings and will enhance rescue capabilities when a fire occurs.

BRENTWOOD IS FINANCIALLY STRONG

Brentwood is one of the most desirable communities in Tennessee in which to live and work. The City realizes that a strong financial position is essential to the success of our community. Having a broad, diverse tax base is important, but spending the public's money wisely while keeping taxes as low as possible is also a priority. The following highlights the City's financial position.

- **No increase** in the City's effective property tax rate for 18 consecutive years. The actual tax rate has declined from \$.89 to \$.49 per \$100 of assessed value of property.
- **Lowest effective property tax rate** (2008) in State compared to 23 Tennessee cities with populations of 25,000 or greater.
- **Annual city property tax bill is \$515** (or \$1.40 per day) for average home valued at \$420,000.
- **City taxes represent only 18%** of your annual property tax bill. The remaining 82% is Williamson County property taxes.
- With the slowdown in the economy, Brentwood's **General Fund is not heavily dependent** on any one revenue source:
 - Local Sales Taxes – 35.5%
 - Property Taxes – 32.6%
 - State Shared Revenues – 13.4%
 - Other Sources/Fees – 18.5%
- **General Fund reserves have increased** from: FY 1991 - \$600,000 to FY 2008 - \$23 million; City never operates in a deficit.
- **Highest possible bond rating** from Moody's Investors Service and Standard and Poor's – AAA.
- **Provides expanded services** with fewer employees. City has 6.69 full-time employees per 1,000 residents in FY 2009, versus 8.54 in FY 1991 or 21% less. (Staffing at the old levels would cost the taxpayers an additional \$5.3 million annually and require a 53% increase in the City's property tax rate.)
- **Commercial property represents only 5%** of the total land but **generates almost 60%** of the total General Fund revenues.
- **National Awards** – GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 22 consecutive years and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 17 consecutive years.

Where Were You in 1974?



The picture above is the original Concord General Store in 1974 at the corner of Concord Road and Wilson Pike which at that time was the farthest point east in Brentwood with development. The store was blown-up in a scene in the filming of the 1975 movie "W.W. and the Dixie Dance Kings" starring Burt Reynolds and Jerry Reed. A second store was rebuilt on the site and remained in operation until the late 1990s when it was removed with the widening of Concord Road. Today, the site is the location of the Concord Corner Market.

We Need Your Help!

As 2009 is the City of Brentwood's 40th year of incorporation, the Brentwood Historic Commission would like to document better these years in photographs with the final goal of publishing a pictorial history of Brentwood. Please go through your photos and other materials and allow the city to make copies for our archives. The Commission is interested in photos of families, buildings, community events, parades, life in the community, and "before and after" scenes as Brentwood has developed over the years; anything that will document the era.

Photos will be duplicated and returned to you

Submit your photographs in one of the following ways:

- ✓ Bring to the Brentwood Library's Reference desk.
- ✓ Email digital copies to Linda Lynch, lynchl@brentwood-tn.org at the City of Brentwood.
- ✓ Mail to Linda Lynch, P.O. Box 788, Brentwood, TN 37024-0788 or drop off at the Municipal Center, 5211 Maryland Way.

Deadline for submittal is **July 31, 2009**

BRENTWOOD BOARD of COMMISSIONERS



Mayor Joe Reagan
1611 Gordon Petty Drive
(H) 370-3730
(F) 507-2764
(VM) 371-2200, ext. 240
(EM) reaganj@brentwood-tn.org



Vice Mayor Paul L. Webb
1201 Twin Springs Drive
(H) 428-3913
(F) 507-2763
(VM) 371-2200, ext. 245
(EM) webbp@brentwood-tn.org



Commissioner Betsy S. Crossley
276 Stratton Court
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Commissioner Regina Smithson
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Commissioner Brian Joe Sweeney
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(VM) 371-2200, ext. 237
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(H) = Home Telephone • (F) = Fax Line • (VM) = Voice Mail • (EM) = E-mail

The City Commission is the legislative and policy-making body of the City. It currently consists of seven members elected at-large for four-year, staggered terms. The next election for four members is scheduled for May 4, 2009. The Mayor and Vice Mayor are City Commissioners appointed by their fellow board members after each election to serve for two-year terms. Unless otherwise rescheduled, the City Commission meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7 p.m. at the Municipal Center, 5211 Maryland Way.

WATER & SEWER UPDATE

Upcoming Water and Sewer system improvement projects include:

- Old Smyrna Road Water System Improvements – replacement of aging eight-inch concrete water line with a twelve inch iron line; installation of a flow control valve to improve flow conditions in this area.
- Cool Springs Market Place, Force Main Replacement Project – replacement of a plastic, eight-inch sewage force main along North Carothers Parkway; wraps up a three-phase plan to replace a force main that has experienced numerous breaks.
- Edmondson Pike force main relocation in conjunction with the Edmondson Pike improvement project north of Smithson Lane.

Brentwood Wins Financial Awards

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) recently recognized Brentwood for excellence in our Budget and Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports. GFOA has awarded the City the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for 22 consecutive years and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for 17 consecutive years. The Finance Department is honored to receive this national recognition and will continue to strive to produce quality financial reporting documents in the future.

Parks Update

Brentwood Parks offer something for everyone. The city encourages you to take full advantage of the active and passive recreational opportunities available in your “community backyard.”

The City is looking forward to another exciting year for the Parks system. With tougher economic conditions today, we remind everyone that Brentwood’s wonderful parks and bike/walking paths are available for FREE!

Shelters/Pavilion Season!

The Parks Department began accepting reservations for use of shelters/pavilions on February 1st. You can choose from facilities in Granny White Park, River Park, Crockett Park and Owl Creek Park. For more information on what is available at each park you can visit our website at www.Brentwood-tn.org or call our offices at 371-2208.

Bikeway System Update!

The newest section of the bike/walking trail has been completed and runs south from the old Wilson Pike railroad underpass tunnel near Ravenwood High School to Spiltlog Road. It continues east along Spiltlog Road to the Taramore subdivision. This addition brings the total miles of bike/walking trails in the city to over 14 miles. If you have not enjoyed the trail system yet, we encourage you to do so.



Bikeway near Ravenwood High as viewed through the abandoned road tunnel at Old Wilson Pike.

General Park Information

- Solar powered emergency call boxes are available in the parks and along the bikeway. Upon opening, these boxes will automatically notify the Police/Fire of the call location.
- Bikeway Mile Markers- Colored markers are placed on the primary trails, a different color for each trail. Each marker represents .10 of a mile. Maps available at trail heads.
- Park Reservations – To make reservations for park shelters, pavilion, courts and fields call 371-2208.
- Residents are reminded to clean up after pets and always have them on a short leash for the safety of other park patrons. Thank you for your help with this

ATHLETIC CONTACT NUMBERS:

Civitan (Boys) Baseball

Patty Jarnigan 376-9155

Civitan (Girls) Softball

Jill Green 376-8839

Hotline 937-3800

Brentwood Baseball

Mark Hansen 370-0577

ILC Baseball (Travel)

Ken Allen 931-607-1646

Brentwood Soccer Club

Jane Olinger 503-9615

YMCA Soccer

Jeff Gillies 373-9622

Brentwood Blaze (Football)

Jerome Perkins 901-674-8175

Hotline **373-7823**

Williamson County Parks 370-3471

Softball (Adult)

Arnold King ext 14

Mike Devine ext 17

Tennis

Mike Martin ext 16

Public Works Road Projects Update

CONCORD ROAD EAST PROJECT – DESIGN/RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION Concord Road improvements from Edmondson Pike to the eastern city limits. A 3.6 mile section will be widened to 3 lanes with a separated 10-foot bikeway lane. City funding of engineering design and right-of-way acquisition. Project management and construction by Tenn. Dept. of Transportation. Property acquisition for Phase 1 (Edmondson Pike to Sunset Road) is nearing completion. Construction tentatively scheduled to begin in June 2009.

EDMONDSON PIKE (NORTH OF SMITHSON LANE TO CITY LIMITS) Widening of Edmondson Pike consistent with prior improvements to the southern portion of the road including 12-foot travel lanes, shoulders, and left turn lanes at appropriate locations. Right-of-way acquisition is underway; construction beginning summer 2009 with completion in 2010.

SPLIT LOG ROAD PROJECT, PHASE II (RAGSDALE ROAD TO EAST CITY LIMITS AT PLEASANT HILL ROAD) This project is in the design stage with right of way acquisition to begin in 2009; construction to begin by late 2009 with completion in late 2010; improvements include a 3-lane road with center turn lane and a 10-foot bikeway lane.

FRANKLIN ROAD SOUTH Widening of Franklin Road is proposed from Concord Road to Moore's Lane. Survey work and engineering design are underway with City funding. The schedule for appraisals, right-of-way acquisition and construction scheduling is uncertain at this point and is subject to a commitment by the Tennessee Dept. of Transportation to fund utility relocations and construction cost.

STORM DRAIN PLACARDS

Have you noticed the blue and green placards that have been placed on storm drain inlets around town? Wonder what they are or why they are there? The City's Engineering and GIS Departments have been working on this project to remind the public that everything entering the inlets flows directly into our creeks, streams, and rivers and affects the overall water quality. Storm water inlets are not the place to dispose waste properly. If you see something other than storm water flowing into an inlet, please contact the Engineering Department at 371-0080. Working together, we can keep our creeks, streams, and rivers clean!